Kennedy Krieger School: Greenspring Campus LEAP Program

Mission

The mission of Kennedy Krieger Institute's Lifeskills and Education for Students with Autism and Other Pervasive Behavioral Challenges Program is to provide students with the opportunities they need to pursue all that's possible in their lives. Also known as LEAP, the program emphasizes the development of lifelong skills and promotes active participation and independence across all curriculum domains at the school, as well as in the community and workplace, and at home.

Who We Are

We are a 12-month, nonpublic special education day program approved by the Maryland State Department of Education, and located at Kennedy Krieger's Greenspring Campus, in northwest Baltimore City. While most of our students are referred to us and funded by their local school systems, out-of-state and international students may also be enrolled. We offer a range of educational and therapeutic services for students with complex academic, communication, social and behavioral needs. We maintain a low student-to-teacher ratio, which allows us to implement individualized education programs (IEPs) that meet the diverse needs of our students while offering the highest-quality education. Our students' parents and families play a primary role in our team approach, which is a key component of all Kennedy Krieger School Programs, and of our students' success.

Who We Serve

We provide education and related services for students ages 5 to 21 with autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disabilities, speech and language disorders, other health challenges, and multiple disabilities. Students work toward earning a certificate of completion.

Our Team

We maintain a strong interdisciplinary team approach. Our team includes highly trained special educators, curriculum specialists, related service providers, behavior analysts and classroom assistants. Full-time related service providers are on-site daily.



Services provided may include:

- Aquatic instruction
- Art and music therapy
- Assistive technology
- Audiology
- Behavioral supports
- Counseling and mental health services

- Nursing
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Special education
- Speech-language pathology



Instructional Program

Our curriculum focuses on building essential skills through access to standards and curricula identified by the Maryland State Department of Education. In addition, art, music, fitness, swimming, health, and life and social skills, with a focus on vocational skills and career exploration and development, round out the course of study.

Our 12-month program is grounded in evidence-based methods supported by research. We use the principles of Universal Design for Learning, along with accommodations, modifications, adaptations and supplementary supports carefully chosen to meet each student's individual needs. Classrooms are well-equipped with interactive technologies, including smart boards and iPads that support instruction. We carefully select our materials based on their proven effectiveness and motivational appeal for our students. When appropriate, our teaching staff members create and customize materials to address a wide variety of student learning styles.

Positive Behavioral Supports

We provide a continuum of positive behavioral supports that encourage students to maintain their focus on cooperation, completion of tasks and appropriate social interactions. Board-certified behavior analysts oversee a highly structured school-wide behavior management system with predictable routines, rewards and consequences. When needed, staff members conduct functional behavioral assessment (FBA) and analysis to develop an individualized behavior intervention plan (BIP), which focuses on the development of adaptive skills in place of problematic behaviors. Crisis intervention is available to students who experience behavioral difficulties. All school staff members receive extensive training in positive behavior management techniques to provide support for students.

Contact Us

Kennedy Krieger School: Greenspring Campus LEAP Program

If you are interested in enrolling your child in the LEAP program, or if you have any questions, please contact our Office of Admissions, Compliance, and Transition (ACT) to discuss next steps.

Please note: Tours of the LEAP Program are conducted by appointment only.

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Scan the QR code or visit **KennedyKrieger.org/LEAP** for more information.



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